

Minutes from the Town of Walpole
Adams Farm Committee (AFC) Meeting
December 7, 2020

A meeting of the Adams Farm Committee was held at Walpole Town Hall on December 7, 2020.

ATTENDING:

- Committee Members: Rob Belcher, Linda Connors , Liz McAfee, and Jack Wiley

The meeting was called to order by Jack Wiley at 1:00 p.m.

Minutes of Previous Meetings

A majority of the Committee approved the minutes of the November 2, 2020 meeting.

Event Applications and Updates

- **Walpole Trails Committee Third Annual First Day Hike, 1/1/21, 9 am to 2 pm** – A majority of the Adams Farm Committee approved this event , which will be the first one at Adams Farm, as follows:
 - The event must be approved by the Board of Selectmen.
 - All trail markers put up for the event must be removed at the conclusion of the event.
 - The event must comply with current State and Town of Walpole guidelines for use of Town property during the coronavirus pandemic.
- **Davis Family holiday party 12/5/20, 11 am to 5 pm** – Liz reported that the Davis family cancelled their event before it was scheduled to take place. Jack indicated that their fee to use the Farm could be handled in one of several ways. Liz will ask the Davis family which option they prefer:
 - Have the fee refunded to them.
 - Have the fee applied to a future event in 2021.
 - Convert the fee to a donation to the Farm.

Old Business

- **Vegetation management** – Jack reported that there is no news to report.
- **Adams Farm Committee web page on the Walpole Town website** – Liz indicated that she has been working with Aoife Kelly in the Board of Selectmen’s office to reformat the application to use the Farm and to make other updates to the web page. After some discussion of including access to AFC minutes and agenda documents on the page, it was decided that Liz should ask Aoife if we can remove them from this location.
- **Millis High School STEAM Scholars Capstone Project** – Jack reported that there is no news about their interest in building a mountain bike trail at Adams Farm.

- **Fee schedule for professional photographer use of Adams Farm** – Jack reported that he has not yet met with the Board of Selectmen about this issue.
- **Monarch Waystation sign** – Jack reported that he has not yet had a chance to replace the sign at the entrance to the Monarch Trail.
- **Unleashed dogs** – Jack reported that he has not yet contacted the animal control officer. The following points were raised and actions suggested:
 - Rob and Linda – In response to Rob’s question about how to approach folks with dogs off leash at the Farm, Linda suggested that we might remind them it’s against the law to have dogs off leash.
 - Jack – Commented that enforcement of the law is a problem and that some folks are nice about being reminded and others are not.
 - Linda – Asked whether there could be volunteers to work with the animal control officer to help deal with the problem.
 - Jack – Will check with the animal control officer about people getting the license plate numbers of offenders and phoning him with the information.

New Business

- **Campfire at the Farm** – Liz indicated she had received an email reporting a campfire at the Farm. Rob said he had checked out the reported location and couldn’t find any indication of a fire. Jack noted that there cannot be campfires at the Farm without a permit.
- **Request from a deer hunter to cross Adams Farm property** – Liz reported that she received an email from a hunter requesting permission to cross Adams Farm property for the purpose of hunting – with permission from NEFF – on NEFF property. Jack indicated that this was ok and that the hunter should carry the NEFF permit with him in case anyone challenged him or reported him to the police.
- **Donation from Stephanie Berenson** – Jack reported that Stephanie Berenson (professional photographer) had sent a monetary donation for the Farm. Liz will follow up with a thank you to Stephanie.

Account Balances

Jack reported that as of 10/31/20, AFC accounts held the following amounts:

- Fee Account -- \$13,170.48, which reflects new income of \$100.00 and an expenditure for fence paint of \$303.92
- Gift Account -- \$3699.59

Next Meeting

The Committee agreed to meet again on January 4 at 1 pm via Zoom, with Rob as the contact for Zoom information.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz McAfee, Secretary of the Adams Farm Committee

January 4, 2021